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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,633	04/09/2004	Zia Yassinzadch	021872-001900US	9024
20350 7590 10/04/2007 TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER EIGHTH FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834			EXAMINER GETTMAN, CHRISTINA DANIELLE	
			ART UNIT 3734	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/04/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/821,633

Applicant(s)

YASSINZADEH, ZIA

Examiner

Christina D. Gettman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 July 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 8, after "away from a wall" insert --of--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-2, 5-8, 10, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brenneman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2002/0156495). Brenneman et al. disclose the invention as claimed including a method (see Fig. 1 and 1A-1C) for hemostatis including the steps of providing a compression member with an expansible member (ref. 42, Fig. 1) on its distal end, inserting the compression member into a tissue tract above the puncture site, positioning the distal end of the expansible member a predetermined distance away from a wall of the vessel (see Fig. 1), and expanding the expansible member, the expansible member only engaging the tissue surrounding the vessel wall, the expansible element being a balloon (ref. 42, Fig. 1), expanding at least in a radial dilation of the balloon, inflating a superior aspect of the balloon greater than an inferior aspect of the balloon (see Fig. 7; the inferior aspect, or top portion, is

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inflated less than the superior, or side, portion), inflating a distal face of the balloon at an angle to the compression member, unfolding folds in the balloon (see ref. 42, Fig. 1C, to ref. 42, Fig. 1), providing a locating member with an expansible member (ref. 30 and ref. 50, Fig. 1), and inserting the locating member into the puncture site simultaneously with the compression member.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3-4, 9, 11, 14, and 15-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brenneman et al. Brenneman et al. disclose the invention substantially as claimed (see Fig. 1 and 1A-1C) including locating the puncture site in the vessel wall, providing temporary hemostasis of the puncture site (by applying pressure to the tissue wall), and contracting and withdrawing the locating member (method done in reverse). Brenneman et al. do not disclose the predetermined distance, expanding the balloon to a conical configuration, the distal end of the balloon having a concave distal end, the expansible member deployed diameter, imaging the element during positioning, delivering energy to the puncture site, delivering a clot promoting agent or an anti-infection agent to the puncture site, or instructions on how to use the device. It would have been an obvious design choice to have modified the balloon of Brenneman et al. to have a conical shape and to have a distal concave end.

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Both of these design alterations are well-known in the art and would, therefore, be obvious to modify the balloon of Brenneman et al. to meet the design limitations. It would also be obvious to modify the predetermined depth of the expandable balloon in the tissue tract as well as to modify the expansible members diameter in order to fit the correct size puncture and provide enough pressure to cause hemostasis to occur. It is well-known in the art to image an insertion area in order to determine the exact location of where the device is moving through the tissue. It is also well-known in the art to use some form of energy for either imaging purposes or to seal the puncture site. It is further well-known in the art to use both clot promoting agents and anti-infection agents to help seal a wound/puncture in a vessel.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Barak, U.S. 5,728,134, disclosing a method and apparatus for hemostasis.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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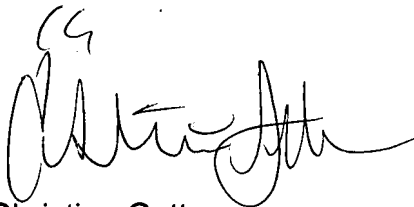
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christina D. Gettman whose telephone number is 571-272-3128. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:15 am to 3:45 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Hayes can be reached on 571-272-4959. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Gettman', with a stylized 'CG' monogram above it.

Christina Gettman
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571-272-3128

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Hayes'.

MICHAEL J. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER